

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
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GENEVA PASS ASST SECY KATZ

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PAN AM CHANGE OF GAUGE

1. PAN AM LATE IN AFTERNOON JULY 11 FILED LAWSUIT IN SAN FRANCISCO AGAINST USCAB AND AIR FRANCE SEEKING TO PREVENT CAB'S WITHDRAWAL OF PART 213 ORDER PURSUANT TO US-GOF ARBITRATION COMPROMIS. DEPARTMENT AND OTHER INTERESTED WASHINGTON AGENCIES LEARNED OF SUIT ONLY THROUGH INQUIRY FROM PRESS REPORTER. SUIT APPARENTLY COMPLAINS THAT PAN AM OBTAINED INSUFFICIENT RIGHTS UNDER COMPROMIS, AND THUS BOARD ACTED UNWISELY IN WITHDRAWAL OF 213. ALTERNATIVELY, SUIT CLAIMS THAT BOARD'S WITHDRAWAL OF 213 SHOULD HAVE
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BEEN SUBJECTED TO PRESIDENTIAL REVIEW, WITH VARIOUS TIME DELAYS RESULTING.

2. US OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON HAVE NOT SEEN PAPERS FILED IN CASE, BUT HAVE CONFIRMED WITH PAN AM THAT SUIT DOES EXIST. PAN AM WAS SEEKING EX PARTE HEARING TODAY IN SAN FRANCISCO, BUT BECAUSE OF INQUIRY FROM REPORTER CAB WILL

MOST LIKELY HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO BE REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL.
REACTION OF CAB AND DEPARTMENT LAWYERS TO THE SUIT IS
THAT IT IS FRIVOLOUS AND MOST UNLIKELY TO RESULT IN COURT
ACTION THAT WOULD INTERFERE WITH FULFILLMENT OF ALL

ASPECTS OF COMPROMIS.

3. BOARD ORDER VACATING 213 ORDERS WAS ISSUED JULY 11,
SUBSEQUENT TO SIGNING OF COMPROMIS.

4. ATWOOD INFORMED CHENU OF FRENCH EMBASSY OF ABOVE
POINTS, AND CHENU IS REPORTING TO PARIS. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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